

to be replaced by electronic exchanges during 1991-92.

(ii) The out-dated telephone exchanges in Agra city will be replaced by modern exchanges progressively during 1991-95.

[English]

Amnesty International Report, 1991

6842. SHRI RAM KAPSE:
SHRI RAM NAIK:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the Amnesty International Report, 1991 wherein it has been stated that an unprecedented rise in violence and killings by separatist groups in several regions of India was accompanied by a similar rise in politically motivated killings by the Government forces and detention of thousands of political prisoners under special or preventive detention laws; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The Government of India is aware of the Amnesty International 1991 Report. While acknowledging increased violence by "armed separatist groups", it alleges *inter alia* that "several thousand political prisoners" were

held in India without charge or trial under special or preventive detention laws and that "increasingly, politically motivated arrests were not officially acknowledged". The figures provided in the Report of persons under detention are exaggerated and it is false to allege that there have been "Politically motivated" killings/unacknowledged arrests by Government forces.

[Translation]

Census, 1991

6843. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:
DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL:
SHRI MUKUL WASNIK:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the distribution of male and female population, male and female literacy rates, density and growth rate of population as per the provisional figures of the 1991 Census, State-wise and Union Territory-wise; and

(b) the population of various religions in the country according to the 1991 Census?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) The required information is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) The population of various religions in the country according to the 1991 Census is not available.